

On Parade PAIR-A-DICE



Pair-A-Dice February 2023

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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OFFICE INFORMATION NEW HOURS

October-April

Mon-Sat 8 :30a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed 12:00-12:30

May-September

Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed 12:00-12:30

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Message from the Silver Seekers President

The holidays were lots of fun, and January was an opportunity to take a little rest. The election was held on January 12 for officers of Silver Seekers. The officers for 2023 are: President, Sharon Guthrie; Vice-President, Pat Bosworth; Secretary, Kris Moore; Treasurer, Sue Vice; and Alternates, Nicole Clark, Millie Duffin, and Flo Wende. I sincerely look forward to being a part of this team! However, it is important to remember that we are dependent upon our volunteers! If you want to try something new, or even take the lead for a tried and true event, we welcome your involvement. You might even want to do something with a fellow member or group. It is also important to start thinking about future leaders of Silver Seekers. Thanks for all of the support. I know many of you are out of the park now. I wish you happy travels and look forward to greeting you when you get home. For those here, stay warm!

Message from the Board President

Sharon Guthrie 7A

If you attended or listened to January's Open Board Meeting you learned just how much effort is going into improve park operations. A huge amount of volunteer hours have been spent by Joyce Ufford, Shannon Bassett, Kris Nau, Don Olney and Doris Cunningham in order to "fix" the office and accounting systems. In many instances the team has had to go back as far as 2021 to correct incorrect data entries and put data in their proper category. Our office filing system has been brought up to current legal standards in part by separating personal data from the lot folders. This effort was done by the team of Julie Klein and Lenita Brouillette. Also helping with the filing and data entry was Kim Athearn. Roy Holt has resurrected the two old office computers with one being used as the new time clock and the other as a limited workstation. On another note Lisa Maloney had been out on unpaid sick leave since the beginning of the New Year and has subsequently quit her job with the Escapee's Co-op. Ginny Harding is continuing on as part of our office staff. We are looking for one or two new employees to meet our office staffing needs so if you know someone with bookkeeping or accounting skills let us know.

(Continued on page two)

Name Badges

Available for \$3. Sign up sheet is in the office and badges are generously made by Nancy Schmitt 51B



Photo Board

Are you new to the park or just need an updated picture? Set up a time where we can get together to take your photo for the membership board in the Clubhouse.
Contact
Laura Bornkamp 26A
Pam Stancliffe 37B
Annie DeSanti 30A.

PSA from the office -

Park internet will be down on Thursday, February 9, 5-6 am.

(Continued from page one)

In other news, you all know by now that package pick up has moved to lot 94B. We have a volunteer team making calls and handing out packages from 2 to 4 Monday thru Saturday. New office hours will begin next Monday January 30th. The office will be open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM and will be closed for lunch from Noon to 12:30 PM. We are still considering another hours change once our staffing is in place. We'll keep you advised.

Another change is on propane day. You don't have to rush to the office to pay your propane bill as it will be added to your statement. You can pay your propane, electric, and maintenance charges during one office visit or better yet we're working on the system so you can pay on line with a credit card when you get your emailed invoice (pledge). Still a few bugs to work out and Don Olney is working diligently to make it happen. Electric will still be read at the same time of the month, but the office needs more time to efficiently enter the data into each member's statement. Electric bills will be available 5 days after the meters are read. So, if we read your meter on the 20th your bill will be available for payment on the 25th. During January there were two bills due to the Valley Electric rate increase of 17%. December's portion was at the old lower rate and January's at the new rate.

There's a lot more happening than what's been listed here so be sure to thank our volunteers for all the hard work they are putting in on helping the park. Suggestions of how to improve our park are always welcome.

Paul Cunningham 49B

We Could Use A Treasurer!

Joyce Ufford has spent hundreds of hours researching and updating our financial books over the last 3 months along with the rest of the accounting team. Once the update and corrections are completed maintaining our books would require a substantially reduced amount of time. However, as the larger part of the task is coming to a conclusion, she has requested to step down as treasurer in late February or early March as she wants to take time off for travel.

So... We are now looking for someone with a very strong accounting or CPA background to step up to the plate and be treasurer and ex-officio non-voting member of the board starting in March. A degree in accounting along with the appropriate career experience is preferred. Working knowledge of QuickBooks Online is a plus. Anyone with this background who feels they can devote the time (approximately 4-6 hours per week) is asked to contact Paul Cunningham.



BYLAWS AND STANDING PARK RULES

Sue Vice 39B

Heads up! You should be receiving a ballot in the mail in the next few weeks. This ballot includes:

- 1) a proposed minor change to Bylaws Article VII, Section 3.A.2.a, needed for consistency with the approved change to Bylaws Article III Section 2.B.1.a.2, where “will be hand delivered” was changed to “may be hand delivered”,
- 2) several changes to Bylaws Article II, Section 11 to enable the provision of proxy voting as discussed in last month’s Bylaws Corner article, as well as some minor amendments which came to light while working on Section 11 for the proxy topic,
- 3) an amendment to Bylaws Article II, Section 2.B.1.a.2 to remove a sentence which appears to have been included at some point by mistake,
- 4) an amendment to Bylaws Article III, Section 4.E.11, requested by the Board of Directors, to raise the amount which has to be reported and approved by the Board from \$75 to \$150, and
- 5) an amendment to Bylaws Article II, Section 1.D to enable a new spouse of a member to be added to the Pair-A-Dice membership.

Please consider these proposals carefully and return your ballot. Every vote is important, particularly for proposed changes to the Bylaws, since the threshold for such changes to be approved by the membership is a majority of all memberships eligible to vote.

Remember, blank ballots and ballots not returned are effectively NO votes.

Comm/Tech Committee

Don Klein 9A

DID YOU KNOW?

Zoom Meetings are being recorded and are available for watching/listening to on our website.

These meetings include the Board Workshops, the Open Board Meetings, the Silver Seekers General Meetings, and the Town Hall Meetings.

To access these recordings, go to the Pair-A-Dice website, click on Members, and sign in. Then click on Zoom Meetings.

There is a list of the available meeting recordings. The format is YY-MM-DD (year/month/date) along with the type of meeting. Double click on the one you are interested in.

There are 3 files (or sets of files). Those beginning with Video are the video and audio of the meeting. Those beginning with Audio are the audio only of the meeting. Those beginning with Chat are the Zoom chat from the meeting. If there is more than one of any given kind it means that the recording was interrupted and restarted during the meeting. They are in numerical order within the file types.

Town Hall Meeting January 10

The only major topic was about the timing of our annual meeting. There was a discussion about changing the date from November to February or April to allow time for the books to be completed and a more accurate budget to be compiled. Several other co-ops meet in February but there was a concern over the Xscapers events in February since many of our new members are Xscapers. Many attendees felt April had more members in the park. This would need a Bylaws change. Members will be surveyed for their opinions in the coming months.

Open Board Meeting January 15

Topics brought up included:

Dick Martin proposed that the park purchase an AED (Automated External Defibrillator).

Sharon Guthrie is organizing a New Member Orientation Team.

Julie and Don Klein will be representing the park at the Spring Escapade in Tucson.

An updated Boon Docking policy was given to the Board—voting will be next month

A request was made that Lot Appraisal and Improvement Committees to be combined. Motion was made and approved by the Board.

Safety and Security Director will be checking all lots for proper compliance to Bylaws and Standing Park Rules. The board will also look at a lot numbering system that is visible from front and back of the shed.

The Board of Directors has formulated a Code of Ethics and all BOD members have signed. (It is shown on page 6 of this newsletter.) We will be formulating a Code of Ethics for members and employees in the near future.

The Board is looking at our credit card usage in the park. The bank charges us 2.5% for each use. The question is do we waive this fee as cost of doing business or add on 2.5% to every credit card usage. The Board of Directors will be monitoring our usage to make a determination.

Don Olney presented questions to be asked when software is purchased for the park.

A request from Lynne Eggleston was made to sell the glass cabinet the park no longer needs and that the proceeds will go to the park. Motion was made and accepted to sell the cabinet.

Charlene Darling presented in a letter the need for an address on the concrete wall at the park entrance, the need for a sign telling visitors where to park and check in and a more visible Office sign.

A reminder that any expenditures for any committee, have to be approved prior to purchase. Bob Tessier also stated that committees should formulate their budget needs before the 2024 budget is in progress.

A Few Reminders

If you use the front showers, verify the doors lock when you leave. We have occasionally had outsiders trying to use our facilities.

Check your water box for insulation due to freezing temperatures. If more insulation needed, contact maintenance.

Please clean up after yourself in the clubhouse. Put chairs back. Clean tables off. Throw trash away. Clean up spills.

Remember to sign out when you are leaving the park to travel for more than 4 days.

Sign up to have access to our webpage members only section. Send an email to Don Olney SKPPairADiceWeb@gmail.com with your name and lot number.

If you use the clubhouse computer, make sure you log out. Otherwise other members will see your account.

Package Pick up

Pair-A-Dice park is implementing new package pickup hours. Effective Wednesday, January 4, 2023, picking up of packages is limited to 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Monday thru Saturday. PLEASE respect these hours. Pick up is at 94B.

Volunteers are needed. If you can offer a few hours a month please contact Ginny Harding in the office.

Propane Delivery Update

All members receiving propane from Shoshone at their site, need to call Shoshone directly when you need propane or ask to be put on auto fill. The office is discontinuing maintaining a list of members needing this service. Shoshone tends to fill the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Updated Billing Procedure

Recently, the Pair-A-Dice office started emailing invoices or statements for Co-op bills, such as electric, quarterly maintenance, and propane fees.

Maintenance bills seem to still have a problem with paying through the statement. Staff is working on it. Please be patient as they resolve the issues. In the meantime bills can be paid in the office by cash, check or charge card.

Bills come through as ESCAPEES OF CO-OP NEVADA, INC. and say pledge due to our status as a non profit.

If you are not receiving bills, it could be because of your email provider. If you are going to change your E-MAIL in Quick Books for billing, let Don Olney know. He will be making the changes. He needs NAME, LOT# and E-MAIL ADDRESS ---- The Office is working hard on fixing other items and does not need to be involved with this simple fix.

Send an e-mail to DONTTHREETENS@GMAIL.COM.

The subject line MUST BE: UP-DATE MY E-MAIL

Body must include the following:

Your name

Lot #

Old E-Mail

New E-Mail

IF THIS IS NOT FOLLOWED, he cannot/will not be able to update your information.

The current board is working on a Code Of Ethics for the park and for employees. We have discovered several of the other SKP Co Ops already have this in place. Below is the Code Of Ethics that has been established for Board members and has been signed by all current board members.

Directors Oath of Office

I agree to abide by the Governing Documents of the Co-op and this Code of Ethics and Conduct. I will always show fair and impartial judgement toward all Co-op Members while performing my duties as a Director.

Code of Ethics and Conduct

No Board Member shall derive benefit or create the appearance of deriving benefit from his or her position as a member of the Board.

Information available to Board Members and not every member of the Co-op shall not be used or appear to be used to the Board Member's advantage.

No Board Member may vote on a motion in which there exists a conflict of interest. Each motion must be considered on its own merits for the membership as a whole, considering the long range results of that motion. If the motion before the board presents a conflict of interest for enough directors that a quorum is no longer possible, this issue should be put before the entire membership at the next membership meeting.

Directors may possess, or become aware of, confidential information in the course of their duties and responsibilities. Maintaining the confidentiality of such information is necessary and critical for the proper administration of the business of the Co-op. Improper handling or disclosure of the Co-op's confidential information will be considered unethical behavior.

Board Members shall treat all members of the Co-op, employees of the Co-op and other Board Members with dignity and respect. Board Members shall not engage in violent or abusive behavior, or fail to control his/her temper with other members of the Co-op, employees of the Co-op or other Board Members. They shall not use profane language or engage in repeated behavior that is unsolicited and unwanted and which may be perceived as harassment of a member of the Co-op, employee of the Co-op or other Board Members.

Board Members shall not solicit special treatment from the Board of Directors or any employee of the Co-op on any personal matter between the Board Member and the Co-op.

Direct management and supervision of Co-op employees is strictly limited to the President of the Board, or his/her designee. Other Board members shall not engage in any behavior that might be construed as disciplinary in nature. Board members may request the assistance of employees in obtaining any information, documents, or assistance necessary for the Board Member to complete his/her responsibilities. However, such requests shall be made politely and with respect for the employee's other duties and responsibilities.

Egregious or continuing violations of this Code of Ethics and Conduct may subject the Board Member to removal as an Officer, and/or removal from the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of the By Laws of the Coop.

We Need Your Help

Without volunteers, our Pair-A-Dice Co-Op would not exist. Yes, we have paid office and maintenance staff. However, the to-do list that keeps everything running smoothly far exceeds staff capability. Every member must contribute their time and expertise to keep a co-op functional and to foster community. Your input keeps us functioning.

We have a particular need for volunteers for the new mail room, our technology group, and the newsletter.

Some of these positions can be done remotely, so no need to be in the park. Contact any member of these committees. (See end of newsletter for committee heads.)

Welcoming Team

Travel time is here and the park will be filled with Escapee visitors and renters. We need happy people to welcome those new to our park with information and small gifts (supplied).

If you are interested in joining this important team, contact Linda Sullivan, Site 40B 609-458-1085.

Compost Pile

It's easy and it's fun.

Next to the garden, a **compost pile** has been established. Feel free to add vegetable and fruit scrapes, egg shells and coffee grounds. PLEASE NO meat, no trimmings with seeds, no corn cobs, and no sticks trimming.

Moods

We all have them. However, we can turn them around, and you should for your own peace of mind and physical health. Here are 5 tips to success for yourself and others.

1. Seek solitude, everything from walks to naps.
2. Eat, drink and be merry. Just eating a meal or having a drink of water can dial down your crankiness.
3. Go outside. Hug a tree, sniff a flower, listen to the sounds around you.
4. Call a friend or a loved one. Make a connection with someone, other than yourself.
5. Look within, identify what is causing the mood. Identifying the cause will lead to self-care.

Follow these steps to help fix thy self. Live happy days.

Submitted by Max Schmitt 51B



FINGER FOOD
POTLUCK

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 12th 3 pm

(Bring your own tableware)



Thursday February 23rd

5 pm

(Bring your own tableware)



Friday
February 24th
11:30 am

Sign up by Friday February 17th

Pourhouse Restaurant

(Meet at Clubhouse at 11 am to carpool)





Through the Lens

Meet Annie DeSanti



Annie grew up in a seaside suburb of New Zealand's capital city, Wellington. Per capita, Kiwis are big travelers and in that spirit, in her 20's, Annie and husband took off to Britain and Europe arriving in London at the beginning of January 1979 where she got a job making costume jewelry until the summer, at which time the couple crossed the Channel to travel in their Austin Maxi car and a tent to tour Central and Southern Europe.

They eventually returned to New Zealand to begin the more serious side of life raising a daughter and starting up a commercial hydroponics growing business. This eventually led to swapping the growing side to the supplying and manufacturing of hydroponic equipment and nutrients when commercial hydroponics was in its fledgling stages in that country. Some years later when her daughter was venturing out on her own, the business well established and the marriage had ended, she met and married Rob, moved to the USA where they both began their 'life on the road'. They worked in many parts of the country, settled for a few years in Northern California before deciding to resume their work camping life. Shortly into getting back on the road, Covid arrived which all but put a stop to travel and which fortuitously led them to Pair-a-Dice.

Pahrump and the desert took some getting used to but some redeeming features both Annie and Rob have found while living here include the magnificent mountain ranges surrounding the area and the great 4WD trails.

Some stand-out times over the years have been climbing up and over the top of Australia's 440 foot high Sydney Harbor Bridge and co-hosting with Rob, their *Rock'n' Down Under* show at KVMR FM in Nevada City, California.

"Favorite song? That's a difficult one when one loves music in general but off the top of my head, Neil Young's Harvest Moon and Gotan Project's, Santa Maria (Del Buen Ayre)." Favorite movie: Pollyanna (no laughing please, it's all about the message). Favorite (current) book: 'A Walk in the Woods' – Bill Bryson

Alone at the Wheel (continued) Incident number four.

Happy to leave Lake George, New York, we headed to a rustic campground in Brewster, Cape Cod. The weather was cooperating and there were no signs of black flies or blood sucking bugs. We set up camp in late afternoon and were looking forward to a cold beer or a relaxing glass of wine. As I popped the top of my favorite cold beverage, watching the sun set behind the trees, the first squadron of June Bugs attacked! They bounced off my head, the camper door, the station wagon. They dove headfirst into anything stationary, tumbling to the ground on their backs, twisting and turning as their orange eyes glowed in the dark. Once air-born, their wings fluttered noisily as they continued their kamikaze attacks, eventually driving us into our tin box for the night. The attacks continued steadily, subsiding just before 10:00 P.M.

The rest of the week went by without incident. Until we headed home and ran short of money on a Sunday afternoon. In the 1970's online banking, or online anything, had not been discovered yet. The first experimental mobile phone was still three years away from being tested, eleven years away from the \$3,900 Motorola Dyna Tax model that would be offered to the public. The GPS system for personal use was still not perfected by the military, and the only ATM was at the Chemical Bank in Rockville Center, New York City. Trying to find a pay phone out in the country; well; they were non existent. Apparently, we had enjoyed ourselves and forgot to check our wallets. However, we did have a full tank of gas, and a good road Atlas Map. Unfortunately, by the time I checked to find our location, we were heading for a toll bridge that charged five dollars and we only had three dollars between us. Call it false pride, or stupidity, I had no intention of begging a toll attendant to let us cross. The detour took us ninety miles out of our way home. (to be continued)

Rob DeSanti 30A

1849 The Forty Niners and Tough Times

The times were tough in the Gold Rush of California, with expectations high. Visions of wealth rolled through all the miners and right out of their pockets. To hunt gold at some point you had to have nourishment, tools, clothes, and particulars.

Some small amount of research found this.

One box of sardines \$16
One pound of hard bread \$2
One pound of butter \$6
One half pound cheese \$3
Two bottles of ale \$16
Total \$43

The price of gold per ounce from 1833 to 1849 averaged \$18.93.

And you thought prices for food were high today in 2023.

An ounce of gold found can take hours or days to accumulate. These are not the tough times yet.

Submitted by Max Schmitt 51B

Contact Information

Board Members

President Paul Cunningham, 49B
SKPPairADicePres@gmail.com
 Vice-President Patricia Bosworth, 25A
 Secretary Robert Tessier, 19B
 Director Lenita Brouillette, 79B
 Director Don Frank, 4B
 Director Julie Klein, 9A
 Director Bill Andrews, 58A
 Director Bob Goodwell, 46A
 Director Roy Holt, 36A
 Treasurer Joyce Ufford, 41B

Silver Seekers Board

President Sharon Guthrie, 7A
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 Vice President Patricia Bosworth, 25A
 Secretary Kris Moore, 15B
 Treasurer Sue Vice, 39B
 Alternate Flo Wende, 67A
 Alternate Nicole Sarandos, 38A
 Alternate Millie Duffin, 78B

Committee Chairs

Elections Sue Vice, 39B
 Audit open
 Bylaws Sue Vice, 39B
 Standing Park Rules Sue Vice, 39B

Office and Maintenance Staff

Clubhouse Scott Pleasants, 33A **SKPPairadiceGrievance@gmail.com**
 Open Lynne Eggleston, 24A
 Safety and Security Office Lead Bill Eggleston, 24A
 Ginny Harding Office Assistant Lynne Eggleston, 24A
 Landscape Maintenance Dave Del Rosso, 41A
 Anthony Alvarez Maintenance Assistant Wayne Moody, 93A
 Parade Dale Patrick
 Roadwork and Leveling Ken Swallow, 80B
 Irrigation Office Hours (October 1-April 30) 8:30 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Saturday
 Linda Sullivan
 Lumber Office Hours (May 1-September 30) 8:30 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday
 Lot Appraisals 727-7221 Ray Botts, 79A
 Photography 727-3966 Pam Stancliffe, 37B
 Communications **SKPPairADiceCommTech@gmail.com** Don Klein, 9A

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Email: **SKPPairADiceWeb@gmail.com**

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Facebook admins: Linda Sullivan, 40B Mary Wakefield, 66B Nicole Hudson, 40A

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Newsletter: Sue Vice, 39B Julie Klein, 9A

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Electronic Bulletin Board: Scott Pleasants, 33A

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Please use your directory for phone numbers. We are attempting to add a level of security for our members since this newsletter is publicly published.